

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Security Research Staff
FROM : Chief, Technical Branch
SUBJECT: ARTICHOKE Conference, 19 November 1953.

DATE: 3 December 1953

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1. On 19 November 1953, between 2:12 PM and 3:50 PM, an ARTICHOKE Conference was held in the Security Office Conference Room. Present were [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] opened the Conference by discussing again the papers on the re-statement of aims and functions of the ARTICHOKE program and the project involving trainee volunteers. [REDACTED] stated that unless the Conference proposed changes in the ideas, these papers would be regarded as complete and would be taken up through the proper Agency channels of authority. The paper of the re-statement of aims and functions would be forwarded to the Director's Office and the paper on trainee volunteers would be taken up with the Training Division in order that details of the program could be worked out before being carried higher (see paragraphs 7-13).

3. [REDACTED] then spoke of the sending of the ARTICHOKE Teams to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] would be leaving probably about the first of the year for the [REDACTED] going permanently and [REDACTED] going for a period not to exceed six months TDY to work with [REDACTED] and gain experience. [REDACTED] pointed out that [REDACTED] was now in intensive training in languages and had recently worked in a special training course in hypnosis and was continuing work in practical training along these lines. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] Chief of Security at Headquarters [REDACTED], is arriving probably the following week and a conference would be laid on with [REDACTED] in regard to [REDACTED] work and [REDACTED] mission would be spelled out in detail and co-ordinated with [REDACTED].

4. [REDACTED] then asked whether the program was a broad field research program or a support program. [REDACTED] also asked if the results of the operations carried on by [REDACTED] would be

reported to Headquarters. In this connection, [redacted] informed [redacted] and the Conference that [redacted] program was of two natures: first, an experimental program to develop the best techniques and methods and; secondly, it would involve actual support as required in the field. [redacted] then stated that [redacted] would make detailed reports to Headquarters and at the present time [redacted] were working on types of reports to be required of [redacted]

5. [redacted] pointed out he recognized in such a program, as this there would be variables and uncontrolled factors would undoubtedly complicate the problem. [redacted] also pointed out that expenses as well as operational problems also increased in the field. [redacted] replied to [redacted] stating that every effort would be made to carry out intelligent and controlled experimental work with reports being returned by [redacted] that would help analysis at Headquarters Washington. [redacted] pointed out as soon as [redacted] arrived in the field he would begin a study of all material and subjects available, particularly concentrating on groups where sound experimental processes could be worked out.

6. [redacted] asked what is the target date of placing an ARTICHOKE Team in [redacted] [redacted] stated at present there was nothing definite but, in general, it might be assumed that Security hoped to have a Team ready by next summer or certainly by 1 September 1954. [redacted] stated at the present moment, we were prepared to send an ARTICHOKE Team to any place in the world if ARTICHOKE was required in support of operations.

7. [redacted] took up the matter of the aims and functions of the program and said he wished to state for the record that at the present time his Division could not offer support previously contemplated although [redacted] very carefully explained that he approved of the work and would support this work as far as possible. [redacted] stated in this connection he would make a report to the Director of Security but wished to explain it personally to the ARTICHOKE Conference. [redacted] advised, in general, that his capabilities for providing medical support for ARTICHOKE Teams had been greatly reduced. He stated that heretofore he had been able to procure well-qualified M.D.s to carry out any project but owing to the changes in the Doctor's Draft Act and changes in the Department of Defense requirement for physicians, this rich source of medical support had evaporated. [redacted] stated that doctors or psychiatrists to work in the ARTICHOKE program had to be very carefully screened and that with the above-mentioned procurement problem, he felt he could not produce doctors in support thereof at least at the present time but he was making every effort to meet this situation. He stated he contemplated supplying doctors for the ARTICHOKE work out of various psychiatric teams which would be

sent overseas to Europe and the Far East in the future. He stated that this program has not as yet been approved by the Budget Committee.

8. [redacted] discussed the project of utilizing trainee volunteers for experimental work in ARTICHOKE but said he wanted to expand the program and to include operational and other Agency personnel who were familiar with operations and who could be checked against new trainee volunteers and act as sort of a "norm". He felt that all interested divisions such as [redacted] and Security should be asked to contribute volunteers. [redacted] then went on and stated that as everyone knew this type of work (chemical experiments) has an element of risk both as to the interest it may arouse and the actual possible injury or physical threat to Agency personnel. [redacted] stated that the [redacted]

[redacted] would be an entirely proper base and provide sound cover for this work. [redacted] stated he would not want [redacted] to take over the program but felt the [redacted] facilities were better for control and would provide greater security than a safe house and added that this should be given consideration at the highest level.

9. At this point, [redacted] pointed out that "trainee" volunteers can be employees who have returned from overseas or Headquarters personnel taking training courses as well as new people. [redacted] stated he felt those who had experience in Agency operation matters would be very valuable and that if we broadened the scope of the whole program and included [redacted] and [redacted] personnel, it would be better because of the wider experience of the personnel involved. At this point, [redacted] spoke in support of [redacted]'s idea and stated that it would not be limited to Training Division personnel only.

10. [redacted] commented that many men in the [redacted] would be possible subjects in such a program.

11. [redacted] then explained that the location as proposed (safe house) originally was not final and also said that consideration could be given to [redacted] as a location for this work. [redacted] however, stated he recognized the [redacted] had many advantages and agreed with [redacted] views that there were risks involved and in any problem of this type the Agency should consider these matters.

12. [redacted] went on to explain that the [redacted] and he personally for a long period of time had a very top-level working agreement with the [redacted] and that this relationship was on

[REDACTED]

an extremely cordial basis and we would be able to get 100% support of this program.

13. A short discussion followed of the possible use of [REDACTED] facilities. It was agreed these facilities presented so many advantageous features plus a sound project cover that this should be considered as the best possible approach of the development of the program. H

14. At this point, [REDACTED] whether in his opinion this matter should be taken up verbally first with DCI to determine whether or not he would support such a program carried out in the [REDACTED] stated in his opinion this was a good idea and it was unanimously proposed to first consult the DCI orally for his opinion and if the DCI answered favorably to then submit a project paper. [REDACTED] stated he would inform [REDACTED] who would approach the DCI. A H, A

15. After this, [REDACTED] stated he had recently talked to [REDACTED] and had tried to straighten out [REDACTED] in his approaches to the Agency. [REDACTED] questioned him relative the [REDACTED] program and [REDACTED] stated that the son of [REDACTED] would be in the United States in the next week or two. [REDACTED] stated he had heard gossip that [REDACTED] who is a psychiatrist, [REDACTED] last year but was now completely recovered. A C, A C, C A C

16. At this point, [REDACTED] asked if there was any evidence currently available that the Reds were using ARTICHOKE or similar techniques. [REDACTED] stated that so far there had been no indication of Red use of chemicals in information obtained from returned ICJs. [REDACTED] confirmed this and also stated that research did not indicate use of chemicals in connection with interrogation or indoctrination although [REDACTED] pointed out there was a considerable amount of second and third-hand material which indicated the Communists had used certain materials. [REDACTED] then stated he would make a request to his own people asking them to bring research along these lines up to date. A A A A A

17. [REDACTED] then stated that he had been informed that [REDACTED] with whom the [REDACTED] people had made the original contact in the LSD matter, had secured a book of clippings from various foreign newspapers in the [REDACTED] office which were critical of [REDACTED] for making LSD available only to countries outside the Iron Curtain. [REDACTED] advised that A C, C C C A

[REDACTED]

that [REDACTED] will endeavor to obtain further information on this from the [REDACTED]

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18. [REDACTED] brought out again the question of the defensive briefing of our personnel against enemy interrogation. A discussion followed concerning methods of "buying time", delaying tactics and techniques and methods of interfering with Soviet interrogation methods, particularly in the event of war.

19. In this connection, [REDACTED] proposed that the Director of Security submit a collection request for information along these lines. In the discussion that followed, [REDACTED] stated he would take the matter up with [REDACTED] and requested that all be prepared to discuss this problem at the next meeting.

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20. Date of the next meeting was set at 17 December 1953 at 2:00 PM in the SO Conference Room.

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[REDACTED]